



San Francisco Estuary Project



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July 8, 2003

Mr. Kamyar Guivetchi
Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: California Water Plan Update 2003

Dear Mr. Guivetchi,

I am writing to ask that DWR include the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP) as an important Ongoing Planning Organization (box on page 4, chapter 5) in its 2003 update of the California Water Plan. Our Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), published in 1993, is in the forefront of water quality issues in the San Francisco Bay Region. SFEP brought together very diverse stakeholders for the first time to address the Estuary's critical environmental problems. The document was developed by 100 stakeholders, including representatives from the environmental, regulatory, business, agricultural and local government communities (including elected officials), and approved by the U.S. EPA and California's governor.

Ten years ago the CCMP identified ballast water as a critical component in the introduction of aquatic non-native invasive species and called for the prohibition of the intentional introduction of aquatic exotic species into the Bay and its watershed. In addition, our CCMP calls for identifying alternative long-term water quality and flow standards to protect and maintain our aquatic resources. In all, the CCMP set forth 145 specific actions needed to save fish, conserve water, reduce pollution, and promote environmentally sound decisions about land use.

Currently, SFEP is involved in many important planning processes, including administering the Wetland Restoration Program and participating with other Bay Area organizations in other wetland restoration and acquisition programs, especially in the North Bay.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Marcia Brockbank
Program Manager

Cc: Dr. Larry Kolb